Name of the Country		*No. of Foreign Collaboration proposals approved*
1		*2*
14.	Korea(South)	3
15.	Netherlands	9
16.	Poland	2
17.	Scotland	1
18.	Singapore	4
19.	Spain	2
20.	Saudi Arabia	1
21.	Sweden	9
22.	Switzerland	13
23.	Taiwan	2
24.	U.K.	43
25.	U.S.A.	56
26.	U.S.S.R.	5
	Total:	254

Public Distribution System fuelling inflation

169. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the views expressed by the Indian Institute of Public Administration in a paper entitled the Public Distribution System fuelling inflation;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) to (c). Different views have been expressed by various academicians, institutions about the role of Public Distribution System (PDS). PDS supplies are supplemental in nature, and are envisaged, inter alia, as an anti-inflationary measure. The

quantities of foodgrain released through PDS depend on the availability in Central Pool, need for buffer for food security, inter-se requirements of different areas etc. Government makes continual efforts to strengthen and streamline the PDS, and takes steps to check and punish malpractices in the system.

Backward Districts in Andhra Pradesh

169. SHRI M.V..V.S. MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the districts in Andhra Pradesh declared as back-ward and are getting central subsidy for setting up industrial units:

(b) whether there is any proposal to refix the norms to declare a district as a backward district;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to add more districts in the lists of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a). The centrally declared backward districts in Andhra Pradesh are Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Karimnagar, Khammam, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Ongole, Srikakulam and Warangal.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Sugar Factories in Maharastra and Andhra Pradesh

170. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of Sugar Factories with their existing capacity and the Sugarcane-cultivated land and cane production in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, separately;

(b) whether any applications are pending with the Union Government from Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh for permission/ Licence to establish Sugar factories; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The desired information is given below:-

sugar	*No. of existing (Lakh factories as on 30.9.91*	*Installed capacity cultivation tonnes) as on 30.9.91*	*Land under sugar cane ing 1990-91 during 1990-91 (Estimated) (In thousand) hectares)*	*Cane production during (Estimated) (In thousand tonnes)*
1. Maharastra	101	31.23	444	38416
2. Andhra Pradesh	34	5.523	189	13754

(b) and (c). The details of the 286 pending applications of the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh are given in the Statement attached.